

impulse. But however this may be, if these impulses are instinctive, their germs must be dormant in the animals below us. And to deny that they are instinctive is only possible for those who hold that they have been breathed into man by a special act of Providence.

These various impulses may be regarded as Life's endowment, if not, indeed, as part of Life itself. But all tribes of living creatures do not possess the gift in its entirety. All animals must be equipped with individualistic and reproductive impulses if they are to preserve their own lives and continue their species : all gregarious animals must at least possess the social impulse of deference.

In most beasts and birds we can detect traces of both cruelty and kindness. But the provident, the aesthetic, and the ethical impulses are possessed far less generally. Apart from man, providence is manifested most strikingly by insects ; birds, it is true, construct nests, but these are for their young, not for themselves, and we find no trace of providence in its most elementary form—an impulse to store up food when it is abundant against the time when it becomes scarce. In quadrupeds, also, the provident instinct is extraordinarily weak : few of them have any notion of putting by for the future, or construct a dwelling of any kind. The aesthetic impulses are strongly developed in birds ;

abandonment can hardly be better illustrated than by a bird in the ecstasy of its singing.¹ Here again quadrupeds are curiously deficient.² man appears to be the only mammal that takes pleasure in dancing, whereas its delights are appreciated by many birds. Outside mankind we can only discover faint traces of the ethical impulse of